

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET

P.O. BOX 942732

SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320
(916) 657-2941

June 16, 1994

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County MEDS Coordinators
All County MEDS Security Coordinators

Letter No.: 94-48

PROCESSING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (EA) 4K AND 5K MEDI-CAL APPLICATIONS (SEE ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER (ACWDL) NO.: 94-22)

This letter is to clarify numerous questions and inquiries the Department of Health Services has had about the EA aid codes and Medi-Cal application process.

Please be aware that two new aid codes (4K and 5K) to be used for the EA foster care portion of the EA program are operational at this time. Aid code 4K will be used to identify certain probation cases which result in foster care placement. Aid Code 5K will be used to identify certain child welfare services cases placed in EA foster care. As described below, these aid codes apply only to a portion of the EA population of children placed in EA foster care. Aid codes 4K and 5K are limited to children who are citizens or who have satisfactory immigration status.

Children must be otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal in order to be placed in 4K or 5K aid code. Only after it has been determined that these individuals are Medi-Cal eligible for EA foster care 4K or 5K may they be entered on the MEDS system.

As stated in ACWDL 94-22, undocumented aliens are not to be placed in these aid codes. Aid code 58 is the appropriate aid code for these individuals. Other children (not placed in EA foster care 4K or 5K) who are temporarily detained in an institution, such as a county operated juvenile assessment center or residential treatment facility pending foster care placement, if determined Medi-Cal eligible, will remain in aid code 45. There is a federal prohibition against aiding inmates in a public institution. Therefore, county workers must evaluate these cases on an individual basis. There are many factors that can determine inmate or noninmate status such as court order, conditions of probation, placement facility, and whether it is a temporary stay, etc. For example, if a juvenile has been picked up for criminal behavior before a disposition hearing, this individual would not be eligible for Medi-Cal. After a disposition hearing, if this juvenile is placed on probation in a residential treatment center or assessment center, this individual would be eligible for Medi-Cal benefits.

EA Medi-Cal policy questions can be directed to Ms. Sharon Garcia at (916) 657-5327.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Marucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch